

531 Rec'd 09/926173
18 SEP 2001

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

MUNAKA

Examiner:

Serial No.: New Application

Group Art Unit:

Filed: September 18, 2001

Docket No. P107242-00021

For: WAFER STORAGE CASE, PROCESS FOR PREVENTING DUST
GENERATION THEREOF AND WAFER STORING METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 18, 2001

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the information item(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each item(s) is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the item(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date or the date of filing a CPA, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, or (c) accompanies a Request for Continued Examination. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance.
 - a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
 - b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

09/926173

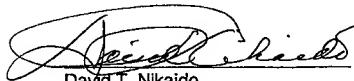
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- c. A check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered. Attached is our check in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(i)(1). Please charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 01-2300 as needed to ensure consideration of the disclosed information.
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- b. I hereby certify that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).
4. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.
5. In the event any fees are due with this paper, please charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2300.

Respectfully submitted,



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DTN/hk
International Search Report
4 References

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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEATTY. DOCKET NO.
P107242-00021SERIAL NO.
09/926173
New Application

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

APPLICANT

MUNAKATA

FILING DATE

September 18, 2001

GROUP

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
AA						
AB						
AC						
AD						
AE						
AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES	NO	PART
AG								
AH								
AI								
AJ								

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

WA	AK	Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 10056057A; dated February 24, 1998
	AL	Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 04206548A; dated July 28, 1992
	AM	Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 01199431A; dated August 10, 1989
WA	AN	Abstract of Japanese Patent Publication No. 06132386A; dated May 13, 1994

EXAMINER	Wes Mank	DATE CONSIDERED
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12/22/03

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.